

August 6, 2005

Edward C. Hurley  
Chairman, Illinois Commerce Commission  
160 N. La Salle,  
Suite C-800  
Chicago, IL 60601

Reference ICC case number 04-0610

Chairman Edward C. Hurley

Chairman Hurley

I originally sent this letter to your Springfield Office, however, because of it's urgency I am also submitting it to the Chicago office.

Thank you for your consideration  
Mel Jackovich

I wish to protest the order (July 19, 2005) made by the Illinois Commerce Commission for the proposed general rate increase in water and sewer rates for the New Landing Utility, Inc. Specifically the rate increase ordered for the sewer rates. The analysis for the rate increase failed to adequately evaluate the investment each sewer user (homeowner) incurs to connect to the sewer system. The sewer system is a pressurized design from each user to the sewer processing plant. Each user has an investment on average of \$5,000 to install a grinder that grinds, pressurize and pumps the sewerage to the processing plant. Additionally, each user is responsible for the maintenance and repair of the grinder system. The suggested maintenance interval of the grinder system is every two years at a current cost of \$200.00. A failure of the grinder system can incur a repair cost from the hundreds to thousands of dollars; this cost is borne by the user. According to the ICC order there are approximately 160 sewer users. At an average cost of the grinder system, amounts to an investment of \$800,000 by the users of this community. An \$800,000 investment by the community to pre-process the sewerage that goes to the sewer plant. The pre-processed sewerage goes to a sewer plant which for the last twenty years was not maintained and allowed to fall into a state of decay.

The current sewer rate is approximately \$12.00 a month. The ICC final order increased the sewer rate to \$34.08 a month, an enormous 284%.

I recognize a business deserves a reasonable rate of return on their investment, however, the users expect a sewer system that is maintained and upgraded to meet the EPA requirements. This sewer rate increase appears to be a reward for years of neglect and mismanagement.

Please reconsider the sewer rate given by the ICC final order for case number 04-0610.

Respectfully

Mr. & Mrs. Melvin C. Jackovich  
Home Owner and Taylor Township Trustee  
708 Rock Ct.  
Dixon, IL 60121

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